History 232
United States in the Nineteenth Century – Spring, 2001

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Office Hours: Monday, 1:00-4:00 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday, 2:30-4:00 p.m.
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Course Description and Objectives
This course is a survey of the political, social, economic, cultural, and constitutional development of the United States from the 1780s to the turn of the twentieth century. We will pay particular attention to how nineteenth century Americans gave meaning to their new constitution, how sectional loyalties competed with national allegiances, and how the nation’s economy evolved and expanded over the course of the century.

The basic format is that of a lecture course, but discussion will also play an important role. We will discuss documents, as well as the supplementary books, at great length. You should leave this class not only with a broad understanding of American history during the nineteenth century, but also with improved oral, written, and critical thinking skills.

Readings
Alan Trachtenberg, The Incorporation of America: Culture and Society in the Gilded Age, 1982.

Assignments and Grading Policies
Attendance is mandatory; if you must miss class because of illness please notify me immediately, either by phone or by e-mail. Final grades will reflect your attendance. You may assume that your final grade in this class will be no higher than the percentage of classes you attend. Final grades will be determined as follows:

Writing Assignments (two papers) - 20%
Map Quiz/class participation - 10%
Panel discussion - 10%
Mid-Term Examinations - 40%
Final Examination - 20%

Details on all of these assignments will follow. Copies of this syllabus, as well as all handouts and assignment sheets will be available on the Academic Volume in the file marked "Huebner." Make up exams will not be given without a verifiable medical excuse, and all excuses are subject to the approval of the instructor. There will be no make-ups of the map quiz. Late papers will be accepted one day after the due date (not one class period), with a one letter-grade penalty. Papers will not be accepted more than one day after the due date. All work, unless otherwise indicated, is pledged under the Rhodes College Honor Code.

Class Assignments

Part One: The New Republic

1. Creating a Nation
   (Goldfield, chaps. 7-9)

   Jan. 10 – Introduction to course

   Jan. 12 – Revolutionary Ideology and Constitution-making

   Jan. 15 – King Holiday

   Jan. 17 – Constitutional Ratification
   (Documents, 1-3)

   Jan. 19- Hamilton and Jefferson
   (Documents, 3-9)

   Jan. 22 - Parties, Politics, and Foreign Policy
   (Documents, 9-16)

   Jan. 24 - Marshall and the Supreme Court
   (Documents, 16-23)

2. Democracy, Expansion and Reform
   (Goldfield, chaps. 10-12, 14)

   Jan. 26 - Social Change and the Market Revolution
   (Johnson, Shopkeeper’s Millennium, 3-78)

   Jan. 29 - Second Great Awakening and Reform
Jan. 31 - Jackson and the Transformation of Politics  

Feb. 2 – Nullification and Indian Removal  
(Documents, 23-31)  

Feb. 5 - The Bank War and the Rise of the Whigs  
(Documents, 32-34)  

Feb. 7 – Panel Discussion: The Scope of National Power  

Feb. 9 - Domesticity and Women’s Rights  
(Documents, 38-40; video: “Women’s Suffrage”)  

Feb. 12 - Manifest Destiny/Summary and Review  
(Documents, 40-44)  

Feb. 14 – Examination #1  

Part Two: The Nation Divided and Reunited  

3. Slavery and the Sectional Crisis  
(Goldfield, chaps. 13, 15)  

Feb. 16 – No class.  

Feb. 19 – North and South  
(Documents, 34-38, 44-50)  

Feb. 21 – Slavery and Slave Life  
(Blight, Narrative of Life of Frederick Douglass, 1-67)  

Feb. 23 - Slave Culture and Community  
(Blight, Narrative of Life of Frederick Douglass, 67-109)  

Feb. 26 – The Territorial Issue  
(Documents, 50-52)  

Feb. 26 – Dred Scott, John Brown, and Secession  
(Documents, 52-62)  

4. Civil War and Reconstruction  
(Goldfield, chaps. 16-18)
Feb. 28 - Lincoln and the Union
(Documents, 67-69)

Mar. 2 – The Confederacy
(Documents, 63-67, 69-71)

(Spring Break: March 5-9)

Mar. 12 - Why They Fought
(McPherson, xi-69)

Mar. 14 – The Battlefield
(video: “The Civil War”)

Mar. 16 - Victory, Defeat, Emancipation
(Documents, 75-77)

Mar. 19 – Reconstruction and Rights
(Documents, 71-75, 77-80)

Mar. 21 – Panel Discussion: The Nature of Rights

Mar. 23 - Redemption and Reunion/Summary and Review

Mar. 26 – Examination #2

Part Three: The World the War Made

5. The Incorporation of America
(Goldfield, chaps. 19-21)

Mar. 28 - The West
(Trachtenberg, 3-37)

Mar. 30 - The North: Labor
(Trachtenberg, 38-100; Documents, 82-83)

Apr. 2 – The North: Capital
(Documents, 84-85)

Apr. 4 – The North: Urbanization and Immigration
(Trachtenberg, 101-139)
Apr. 6 – The South
(Documents, 86-88)

6. Crisis, Reunion, Expansion
(Goldfield, 22, 24)

Apr. 9 – Agrarianism
(Documents, 88-90)

Apr. 11 – Crisis: 1893-1895
(Trachtenberg, 208-234)

(Apr. 13 – Easter Recess)

Apr. 16 - Politics and the Election of 1896

Apr. 18 - Racism and Reunion
(Documents, 91-95)

Apr. 20 – War, Expansion, and Reunion

Apr. 23 – No class.

Apr. 25 – Panel Discussion: The Meaning of America

Apr. 27 - Summary and Review

FINAL EXAMINATION: Wednesday, May 2, 2001, 1:00-3:30 p.m.